

SHEILA JACKSON LEE
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House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for **Crime Prevention and Violence Intervention** in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Houston Police Department (HPD) located at 1200 Travis, Houston, TX 77002.

The funding would be used to help supporting law enforcement efforts in Congressional District TX-18 by creating a pilot Business Watch Program for the HPD South Central Division, and by supporting the continued work of the Law Enforcement Against Drugs & Violence (L.E.A.D., Inc.) through the purchase of equipment and training materials in furtherance of expanding and improving the Advance Certification Training in anti-drug and violence prevention and life skills education and program evaluations of effectiveness.

By providing additional security patrol and enhanced anti-violence training and certification for officers throughout the HPD, the **Crime Prevention and Violence Intervention project** will serve to help deter crime and violence in the short term and assist HPD and its supporting partners to better allocate resources to provide long-term solutions and corrective/preventative measures for safer communities. This project funding is needed to help support the launch of the Business Watch Program, an effort that will help deter crime and is largely backed by a collective of small business owners (coffee shops, bars, and restaurants) and service industry workers who have suffered losses from criminal activity and crimes against their businesses. The anticipated cost to support the Business Watch Program would be \$1,090,018.00 and entails funding for

two additional HPD officers and one HPD Sergeant in an overtime capacity to assist in timeline response calls for service from the Security Patrol Officers. Additionally, the **Crime Prevention and Violence Intervention project** funding is also needed to help support violence intervention and prevention programs to law enforcement agencies, educators, and families through L.E.A.D., Inc., a longstanding anti-drug and anti-violence Program Enhancement Initiative in need of \$250,000.00 to further support crime prevention and violence intervention program efforts in the 18th Congressional District to Texas. While HPD currently delivers ant-drug/anti-violence prevention and life skills education to (K-12) students in our communities by way of School Resource Officers training and school-systems implementing these programs, there is still more work to be done to help curb crime and violence in our communities.

The **Crime Prevention and Violence Intervention project** has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Sheila Jackson Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sheila" being more prominent and stylized.

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress